Vol. IV. Numb. 12

The EXAMINER.

From Monday *June* 22, to Friday *June* 26, 1713.

——Pars viliſſima rerum,
Certamen moviſtis, opes.—— Lucan.

THE Time for the *Emperor*'s coming into the *Peace* being now expired, the Armies on both ſides are preparing for Action; and our laſt Advices tell us, that *Landau* is actually Inveſted. What the Iſſue of this War is like to be, and how far it may affect the *Balance* of *Power*, it is impoſſible to Foreſee, or arrive at any certain Judgment of an Event, which perhaps may be at a great diſtant from us, in the Order and Succeſſion of Futurity. But whatever the Event be, we ſhall be in a better Condition to meet it, and guard againſt any ill Conſequence; or to make our Advantage of any favourable Juncture or Occurrence, by taking breath, and recruiting our ſelves, now we are eaſed of the Burden of a Long, Bloody, and Expenſive *War*. During the Run of the preſent, or any other ſucceeding *Campaign*, whenever our Foreign Intelligences bring us an Account of a Siege, a Skirmiſh, a March, a Surprize, or a main Battle, I ſhall repeat, with great Pleaſure, thoſe fine Lines in *Lucretius*,

Suave mari magno, turbantibus æquora ventis,
E terrâ magnum alterius ſpectare laborem:
Non quia vexari quemquam eſt jucunda voluptas,
Sed, quibus ipſe malis careas, quia cernere ſuave eſt.
Suave etiam belli certamina magna tueri,
Per campos inſtructa, tua ſine parte pericli.

Happy had it been for us, if we had been entertain'd with no other warlike Amuſements, for theſe Twenty Years laſt paſt!

The want of *Spain*, as an *Appendix* to the Dominions of the *Houſe* of *Auſtria*, is, it ſeems, ſo highly regretted by his *Imperial Majeſty*, that in a late *Memorial* or *Declaration*, extant in our *Publick Prints*, he is pleaſed to compare himſelf to the *King* of *Sweden*; that is, as He modeſtly explains it, With reſpect to that *King*'s Circumſtances and Condition: On the other Hand, his Truſty *Commiſſaries* and *Muſter-Maſters*, now reſiding in *Great Britain*, have given in ſuch a formidable *Liſt* of his Forces, amounting to above Four hundred thouſand Men, and ſuch a ſpacious *Map* of his Territories, that one would think, *Spain* ſhould hardly be miſs'd among the Royal *Items*, and in this prodigious Tale of *Kingdoms*, *Dutchies*, *Palatinates*, *Counties*, and ſo forth: Or if *Spain* were really inſerted, That there would be no manner of occaſion to diſpute the Title of the *Houſe* of *Auſtria* to any other Part of *Europe*. How to reconcile this apparent Difference in the Calculations and Politicks of the *Britiſh* and *German* Writers, is a Matter of ſuch Difficulty, that I ſhall gladly leave it to the Superior Wiſdom of the ſeveral Parties concern'd. I only wiſh, there were ſome *Commiſſioners* of *Account* at *Vienna*, to Inſpect theſe *Plans*, *Liſts*, and *Muſter-Rolls*; becauſe I much queſtion, if the ſeveral *Pay-maſters* will be able to keep even Pace with ſo Bulky an *Eſtabliſhment*.

If, as it is given out, His *Imperial Majeſty* takes the Field in Perſon, there is no manner of doubt, but he will at leaſt acquit himſelf with as much Glory at *Landau*, as he once did at *Barcelona*; and penetrate with as much Vigour into the Bowels of *France*, as he formerly puſh'd the War into the Heart of *Spain*, by that ſtupendous March from *Saragoſſa* to *Madrid*, ſo fully Recorded by our beſt Hiſtorians. For my own Part, as I am one of thoſe, once *good* Allies, whom he cannot forget without Breach of Gratitude, and a Renunciation of many Solemn Engagements, I ſhall gladly Contribute to his Succeſs, by whatever Prayers and good Wiſhes may be thought Equivalent to a *Quarter Part* of *Four Millions a Year*: It being impoſſible to ſuppoſe, that the Zeal for his Service is abated in *Great Britain*, ſo long as we have ſuch a hearty Body of *Subſcribers* among us, who are ſaid to have advanced conſiderable Sums upon *Auſtrian* Funds and Securities, and whoſe Modeſty hath made their Names a Secret; tho', as a Mark of their entire Affection for the *Court* of *Vienna*, they are the very ſame Men who once put a ſtop to the *Bank*, refuſed to lend their own *Queen* a *Shilling*, and gave out that *Credit* was juſt expiring. But ſince good Advice is my only *Subſcription*, I ſhall act a more generous Part, by being neither aſham'd, nor afraid, to give it publickly.

I know very well, that *Germany* is at preſent Happy in a Sett of Generals, both *Native* and *Naturalized*, as capable of any great Undertaking, as they are able to go through it, and finiſh the Adventure; but yet I muſt highly Applaud His *Imperial Majeſty's* Reſolution to command his Armies in Perſon: He will then find by Experience, what a vaſt Difference there is between a *Truncheon* and a *Scepter*, that what the World calls *Uſurpation* and *Antimonarchical Inſolence*, is, in reality, nothing elſe but the true Intrinſick Value of good Sterling, Merit; and that a *General* has many ſolid Reaſons for Rating himſelf far above all Crown'd Heads, all who dangle the *Unbloody Robe*, and loll in a *Pacifick Throne*, and for Treating his *Royal Inferiors* accordingly.

All the fine Things that are to be found in Domeſtick Accounts, concerning Cold and Hunger, Dangers and Enterprizes, with whatever hath been ſaid, by Poets and Orators, of Faring hard, lying in Froſt and Snow, ſleeping in wet Trenches, being expoſed to Swords, Mines, Bombs and Bullets, fatigu'd with long Marches, and confin'd to Hoſpitals, Priſons, or Centry-boxes; when a Declamation wants ſtuffing, or a Bill of Merits is to be made, are placed as much to the Account of the *General* who eats in Gilt Plate, ſleeps in a Nunnery, or Brandiſhes his Cane upon a diſtant Riſing, as to the Account of the meaneſt *Dragoon* or *Grenadier*, who lives to recite his Story upon *two Wooden Pedeſtals* in the *Cloiſters* at *Chelſey*. Beſides, every Victory and Triumph is entirely the *General*'s by Military Imputation, with full Power and Authority to transfer the Diſgraces or Misfortunes, he meets with, to his *Subalterns* and *Under-Officers*: Thus not *W—bb*, but *Ma———h*, fought the wonderful Battle of *Wyn——le*; and not *Eug——*, but *Al——* was beaten at *Denain*. Theſe are ſuch Privileges as, one would think, were enough to make any *Emperor* haſten his Equipage; and to which, no doubt, our Great *Queen Elizabeth* had an Eye, when ſhe mounted her Palfry at *Tilbury*.

His *Imperial Majeſty* would do well to conſider, that War is no longer a rough *Bear-garden* Exerciſe, but by the Refinements of the Moderns, hath been model'd to a more civiliz'd Temper, and is at preſent number'd with the Polite Arts and Sciences. For whether

we reckon it a Manufacture in the *Mechanical* Senſe of the Word, or ſuch a Branch of *Trade* as is proper for Merchants of the firſt Rank and Dignity; it is certain, that little more is required to Accompliſh a Perſon in this Profeſſion, than only a competent Knowledge in the *Courſe of Exchange*, a good venturing *Genius*, a reaſonable Talent at *Accompts*, particularly in the *Golden Rule* and Art of *Subſtractions*; or, to ſpeak in the *mix'd* Stile, the Method of deciding a *Sum Total* by *Fractions*, of ſetting *Numbers* in array, and of drawing out *Columns* in order, under the leading of *Debtor* and *Creditor*. Expedition and Diſpatch are now ſet aſide, among other Miſtakes of the Ancients; and the whole Science is practis'd in a prolix leiſurely way, ſuitable to the known Temper and *Genius* of the *Houſe* of *Auſtria*: It being in this Trade, as in all others, an approv'd Maxim, That he, who holds out longeſt, is the beſt Man. Fighting, for Fighting's ſake, is mere *Quixotiſm*, and *Wounds* and *Grinning Honour* have been ſufficiently exploded, by that profound Critick, Sir *John Falſtaff*. *Pay* is, at preſent, ſo very eſſential to a *Hero*, juſt as *Profit* is to a *Trader*, that the increaſing of this is the only Victory; and where a Fellow gets no more than only Five Pence a Day, it is impoſſible he ſhould riſe in an Army. *Hannibal*, who never got above Three Shillings and Six Pence, by this Rule, muſt appear to have been only a *Lieutenant* of *Grenadiers*.

According to the preſent Scheme, *That War is a Trade*, the *German Cæſar* ought to imitate the Example of the *Eaſtern Monarchs*, who are moſt of them Mechanicks; ſome *Blackſmiths*, others *Cutlers*, and not a few *Wheelrights*: For when he comes into the Army, unleſs he is by Trade a *Baker*, a *Brewer*, *Apothecary*, *Surgeon*, *Carter*, and *Grazier*, as well as *General*, it will be impoſſible for him to fill thoſe Stations with Honour; and whenever he comes to treat with the ſeveral *Contractors* for Stores, Forrage, Cloathing, *&c*; his *Chaps* and *Dealers* will certainly over-reach him, by ſetting out very unequal Shares, and adjuſting the Partnerſhip to his Diſadvantage.

A compleat *General* ſhould underſtand the whole Oeconomy of *Regimental Eſtabliſhments*; as, when a *Regiment* ought to be paid *before it is Eſtabliſh'd*, or not to the *full Value* of the *Eſtabliſhment*; or upon *Two Eſtabliſhments* at once; or upon a *new Eſtabliſhment* different from the Firſt; or upon *no Eſtabliſhment* at all. A perfect knowledge of this Art or Myſtery is of equal uſe with the *drawing up* of a *Regiment*, or teaching them their *Exerciſe*; but it abundantly ſurpaſſes the moſt maſterly Performances of *Fidling* and *Bull-baiting*.

The moſt approv'd Method of forming a *Muſter-roll*, is alſo of ſignal Service in the Command of an Army: Nor has any Stratagem ſucceeded better, than that of ſpreading Reports, that an Army may be thought far more numerous than really it is; of which the General has often made his Advantage, eſpecially in *Winter Campaigns*, and upon fighting over his Battles *at Home*. For we are to know, that a *Well-gilt Truncheon* is ſometimes made out of a *Faggot*.

The *Cloathing*-Buſineſs, the *Forrage*, the *Waggons*, *Convoys*, *Remittances*, *Debentures*, nay the very *Hoſpitals*, are not altogether ſuch very inconſiderable Articles, as to be quite out of the Notice and Obſervation of the moſt expert *Commander*. We find it often mention'd in the Characters of the greateſt Captains, that they fill'd many Stations at once, were preſent every where, and not only acted their own Parts well, but thoſe of the ſeveral Officers employ'd under them: By which Rule, a *General* ſhould be a good *Commiſſary*, an excellent *Clothier*, an expert *Surgeon*, and be preſent at all *Convoys* and *Protections*; which will make him a Title to *Safeguards*, *Gratuities* for *Muſters*, and other Perquiſites: For if Money be the Sinews of War, no body can blame a *Hero*, who ſubſiſts his Glory upon *Half-Shares* with *Smiths*, *Taylors*, and *Sutlers*, who flouriſhes by the *Reduction* of *Buttons*, and the noble *Manufacture* of *Wooden Legs*.

When new *Alliances* are to be entred into, *Contributions* to be rais'd, or *Quota*'s to be furniſhed, his *Imperial Majeſty* would do well to enquire, what Princes are willing to Compound, and for how much? On what Conſiderations the *Quota* of a Moneyleſs Ally may be transferr'd to one, more Able and Reſponſible? And in Caſe of a Deficiency, how many Setts of *Horſes*, or *Furniture*, *Plate* or Jewels, may be deem'd an *Equivalent* for *Squadrons* and *Battalions*? He ſhould know, what Quarrels, Pretenſions and Claims, are on Foot; and at what Rates the ſeveral Intereſts may be dropt or eſpous'd: How much a Court is willing to give, to excuſe being Viſited or *Invaded*; and where an Argument may be fairly advanced againſt a City or Province, that has had the Impudence to grow richer than their Neighbours. For in ſhort, the moſt dreadful Weapon is a *Pick-lock* to the ſeveral *Military Cheſts* of *Europe*; and a *General*'s Sword is only made to be ſet with Diamonds.

In the *Marching* of an Army, care is to be taken that the *Columns* may extend themſelves as far as poſſible to the Right and Left, and make ſeveral Feints, as if they intended to paſs over the richeſt Meadows and largeſt Fields of ſtanding Corn: So that the Inhabitants of the adjacent Places may take the Hint, and make their Applications in time to the *General*, in caſe they have any powerful Reaſons to offer, why the Troops ought to take another *Route*, or March at leaſt in *Counter Order*.

When a *Camp* is to be mark'd out, the way is to break ground in ſeveral Places at once; which not only ſerves to amuſe the Enemy, but at the ſame time affords a handſome intimation to ſome *rich Monaſtery*, or the *Lords* and *Proprietors* of ſome plentiful *Diſtrict*, and lets them know, it is their Duty to wait on the *Commander in Chief*, and ſhew him the conveniency of removing his Quarters.

Suppoſe a *Siege* is to be undertaken, and the Deſign be in earneſt; when the *Engineer* hath delivered in his *Plan*, it is neceſſary, that an authentick *Inventory* of the Furniture, Pictures, Plate, Jewels, Rights and Privileges of the Inhabitants, ſhould be produced and examined; that proper Meaſures may be taken in regulating the *Capitulation* and *Surrender*, and the *Heroe* receive ample Satisfaction, for his Pains and Trouble in reducing them to Reaſon.

A Skirmiſh or Battle, if it be ſo manag'd as not to put an end to the War, is a very advantageous and encouraging Commodity: It lets a *General* entirely into the *Baggage-Trade*, opens a large Market for *Plunder*, increaſes his Demand for *Mort-payes*, and makes abundance of unexpected *Vacancies* in *Commiſſions*.

Theſe Maxims, and Articles of *Military Conduct*, I heartily recommend to the ſtudy and peruſal of his *Imperial Majeſty*, as a Mark of that cordial Friendſhip and Amity which, among his other good Allies, I am ſtedfaſtly inclin'd to obſerve and maintain with him. We can fully atteſt the Truth of theſe Diſcoveries, having paid ſo very dear for the Experiment; and when I conſider how much they ſtand us in, I think I cannot tender him a Preſent of greater Value. A more *large* and *compleat Collection* ſhall ſhortly viſit the World in Print, for the Uſe of the whole *Germanick Body*.

ERRATA in the laſt EXAMINER.

Col. 3. *l.* 26. *dele* who. *Col.* 4. *l.* 2. *for* Exile *r.* Exil.

LONDON: Printed for *John Morphew*, near *Stationers-Hall*. 1713.